## Message Text

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**ACTION EUR-25** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 SAJ-01 OMB-01 ACDA-19 DRC-01

NIC-01 /139 W

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R 141205Z AUG 74 FM USMISSION BERLIN TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3798 INFO AMEMBASSY BONN AMEMBASSY LONDON AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERLIN 1368

EO 11652 NA TAGS PFOR, GE SUBJ GDR ON GOVERNMENT TRANSITION IN U.S.

REF: (A) BERLIN 1342; (B) BERLIN 1343

- 1. GDR OFFICIAL REACTION TO LEADERSHIP CHANGE IN U.S. HAS BEEN POSITIVE AND HANDLING OF ISSUE SEEMINGLY ANTICIPATES ESTABLISHMENT DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS IN NEAR FUTURE. EAST GERMAN PRESS CONTINUES TO GIVE EXTENSIVE FACTUAL COVERAGE TO PRESIDENT FORD'S ACTIVITIES AND PUBLIC STATEMENTS; NEUES DEUTSCHLAND (ND) AUGUST 14 EXCERPTED EXTENSIVELY FROM ECONOMIC AND FOREIGN POLICY SECTIONS OF PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS TO CONGRESS.
- 2. IN THIS GENERAL CONNECTION, GEYER OF GDR FOREIGN MINISTRY AUGUST 12 ASKED MEMBERS OF US ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM, NOW IN BERLIN, WHETHER ND AUGUST 11 EDITORIAL (REF B) STRUCK THEM AS BEING SUFFICIENTLY POSITIVE. LAETZSCH OF GDR FOREIGN MINISTRY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AUGUST 13 ADMITTED TO MISSION OFFICER THAT HE HAD

AUTHORED CONGRATULATORY STOPH-FORD CONGRATULATORY TELEGRAM CARRIED ON PAGE ONE OF ND SAME DAY. LAETZSCH REFERRED TO MESSAGE AS "CUSTOMARY INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE" BUT AGREED THAT SUCH MESSAGES USUALLY DID NOT RECEIVE PROMINENT COVERAGE NOR WERE THEY ALWAYS PUBLICIZED. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE SAID, HE RECALLED ULBRICHT SENDING A SIMILAR, BUT PRIVATE, MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT NIXON IN 1972.

3. DECONTROL DECEMBER 31, 1976.KLEIN

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION, CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 14 AUG 1974 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BERLIN01368

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Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D740223-0214

From: BERLIN

Handling Restrictions: n/a

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Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ACTION EUR Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL OF Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: (A) BERLIN 1342; (B) BERLIN 1343 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: CollinP0

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 24 APR 2002

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**Review Markings:** 

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

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To: STATE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005